

# JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جورن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية « الراي »

## British punk star dies of overdose

NEW YORK, Feb. 2 (R)—British punk rock star Sid Vicious died of an overdose of heroin here today, one day after he was freed from jail while awaiting trial on charges of murdering his girlfriend last year. Vicious' death was reported to police by his latest girlfriend, Michelle Robinson, who said she found the musician dead in bed at her Greenwich Village apartment. The 21-year-old Briton, whose real name was John Simon Ritchie, had been in a New York prison until yesterday, when he was freed on \$50,000 bail. He was charged with the stabbing to death of 28-year-old Nancy Spungen last October. The gangly, spiked-hair Vicious denied the charge, but the district attorney's office later released an alleged confession he made to them. The trial was not expected to start for two more months. He had been treated for heroin addiction after his arrest. A police spokesman said Vicious "did not intend to kill himself. It was an accident."

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

AMMAN, SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3, 1979 — RABIE AWAL 6, 1399

## Arab newsmen urge dialogue

BEIRUT, Feb. 2 (R)—Representatives from 14 official Arab news agencies today called for constructive talks with foreign organizations but urged the Arab press to depend on their own agencies as a main source of news. The conference of the Union of Arab News Agencies also decided to suspend membership of the Egyptian, Middle East News Agency (MENA) and the Sudan News Agency (SUNA) for failing to pay overdue subscriptions. News agencies represented at the three-day meeting were from Lebanon, Iraq, Syria, Kuwait, Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the Libyan Jaminiyah, Morocco, Mauritania and South Yemen. The Palestinian News Agency Wafa was also represented. The conference called for a constructive dialogue with foreign news agencies and information media to establish a balanced and objective flow of news that did not distort facts about Arab countries.

Volume 3, Number 972

## After banning press conference

# Israel prevents W. Bank mayors from prayer

HEBRON, West Bank, Feb. 2 (R)—The military governor of the occupied West Bank, who yesterday banned a press conference called by local Arab mayors, today prevented them from attending morning prayer services at Al Haram Al Ibrahimy in Hebron. Hebron Mayor Fahd Qawasmeh had invited foreign newsmen to a press conference at his town hall in his home today to hear complaints about the Israeli settlement activities in Hebron and the West Bank.

But shortly after his invitation, Qawasmeh was informed by the military governor that the meeting was banned as it was political in nature and was therefore not permitted because it might inflame local feelings between Israelis and Arabs, municipal sources said.

Political activity by local leaders in Hebron has been banned since 1967, when Israel captured the area. Security sources said the mayor at that time had therefore organized a mass prayer meeting by mayors and religious leaders from the West Bank, at the Ibrahimy Mosque, a traditional site of the tombs of the biblical patriarchs venerated by Jews and Moslems.

Their convoy of cars was turned back at a roadblock near the village of Halhul just north of Hebron, where speeches were being delivered by several mayors denouncing Israeli actions and calling for a new timetable for Jewish and Muslim prayers at the holy site.

The government claims that the United States agreed at the Camp David summit conference last year that para-military settlements could be set up as part of Israel's defence measures.

The Defence Ministry two weeks ago amended a previous timetable established by the Labour government some years ago, giving Jews more time for prayers than formerly, and allowing them to use an additional part of the site.

Moslem spokesmen complained that Jewish residents of the Kiryat Arab suburb of the Arab town on Hebron, where many members and supporters of the ultra-nationalist Gush Emunim (Faith Bloc) live, attended prayers at the mosque while armed and escorted by guard dogs.

A new para-military village was established in the Jordan Valley rift today by members of the Nahal (Fighting and Farming Youth) wing of the Israeli army.

Military sources said that the village of Na'amah north of Jericho in the below-sea-level Jordan rift was the first of three new Nahal villages to be established under a government decision a month ago.

Two others—in the northern part of the Jordan Valley and in the Gaza Strip—are to be established shortly, the sources said.

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Chinese Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping (centre) viewing a motor as it rolls down the assembly line at a Ford plant in Hapeville, Ga. On Friday, Mr. Deng got a taste of the Old West as he visited Houston, Tex., where he saw some of America's most advanced space technology and visited a manufacturer of oil drilling equipment. Later tonight he was scheduled to attend a rodeo and eat barbecued meat at a ranch outside Houston. (AP wirephoto)

## Callaghan takes tough line against trade unionists

LONDON, Feb. 2 (R)—Britain's Labour government today took a tougher line against the tactics of trade union extremists pressing for huge pay rises.

Ministers and members of the Labour party normally an ally of the unions hit out at wildcat pickets blockading hospitals, stopping funerals and closing down schools.

After denouncing what he called "free collective vandalism" in parliament yesterday, Prime Minister James Callaghan called in four union leaders to tell them the way in which strikes have been conducted was shocking the nation and ruining his re-election hopes.

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection Roy Hattersley followed it up when, in a radio interview today, he said it was time unions stood up against members who are giving them a bad name.

He denounced the behaviour of some strikers as thoroughly indefensible.

Mr. Hattersley also dismissed as "fantasy" any idea that the government would authorise higher pay offers to 1.5 million low wage earners pressing for increases ranging up to 40 per cent.

Conservative opposition leader Margaret Thatcher called for a campaign against the "few thousand wreckers" in the union movement.

Speaking during a factory tour in North London, she said she was appalled at the callous way strikers were picketing hospitals. "The codes of practice on picketing do not work and we have to have legislation," she added.

There was no let-up in low-paid workers' industrial action. About 1,100 of Britain's 2,300 state hospitals were only accepting emergency cases because of sporadic stoppages by cleaners, kitchen staff, porters and other ancillary staff.

Mr. Hattersley said the general election which must be held by mid-November should not take place until after the present industrial unrest has ended. "An election campaign now would be dominated by wild statements," he said.

The minority government is striving to reach some sort of pay agreement with the Trades Union Congress (TUC) in the next few weeks to pave the way for the election campaign.

## As Iranians await Khomeini's orders

# Armed conflict feared legal clash expected

TEHRAN, Feb. 2 (R)—Armed conflict could erupt in Iran unless Prime Minister Shapour Bakhtiar and Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini reach agreement on a political solution within two or three days, highly-placed government sources said today.

The sources said ministers of the embattled civilian government detected the spectre of civil war if there is no speedy settlement with the 78-year-old Moslem leader who wants to set up an Islamic republic in place of the absent Shah.

Some ministers were already prepared to resign in favour of Khomeini nominees if their sacrifice would save Iran from a bloodbath, the sources said.

After returning to a triumphal welcome by millions of devotees yesterday, the Ayatollah told Dr. Bakhtiar's government it should step down or face arrest.

Dr. Bakhtiar, appointed by the Shah before he fled abroad 17 days ago into possible exile, has adamantly refused to resign. But he said today he would accept supporters of Ayatollah Khomeini in a government if they were people of international calibre.

Dr. Bakhtiar said that if the Ayatollah unilaterally announced a provisional government for his planned Islamic republic "I would ignore it as far as possible."

He said "Mr. Khomeini is now here and he can help us on certain problems...we can accept his judgment on questions of religion or social affairs but when he wants to be a foreign minister—really..."

He added that he had made a number of proposals but did not say what kind of response he had received.

The Prime Minister said there was no question of a military coup in Iran for the time being.

"The army does not command in Iran," Dr. Bakhtiar said. "It must remain at the service of government policy and in the current situation, I exclude any coup d'etat by the army."

But he warned that petrol bomb attacks on military barracks and hanks would be answered with bullets.

A source close to the cabinet said it was essential that a political solution to the crisis be found "on a juridical basis acceptable to the government."

But there was no sign of any softening of the Ayatollah's flat refusal to recognise Dr. Bakhtiar and his government.

In an uncompromising revolutionary speech yesterday after his tumultuous welcome home from 15 years in exile, Mr. Khomeini stopped short of announcing a provisional government.

But aides said he may do so tomorrow—when he is expected to hold a press conference—or on Sunday.

The result would be a formal constitutional clash, which moderate Iranians fear could be resolved only by street fighting between the Ayatollah's millions of supporters and the pro-Shah armed forces backing Dr. Bakhtiar.

Ayatollah Khomeini meanwhile received more than 100,000 people who thronged the Islamic school in central Tehran which is his political base.

Turbaned mullahs (Moslem clergymen) went to see him in the early morning, followed by tens of thousands of men and then throngs of women, all wearing enveloping black chadors (cloaks).

The Ayatollah made no political statements. But he said he would soon go to the holy city of Qom, which he is expected to make his long-term headquarters.

Among those briefly received by the Ayatollah was the leader of the opposition National Front Party, Dr. Karim Sanjabi, a respected nationalist politician who may play a role in the planned Islamic republic.

But the two men did not discuss

the political crisis, an aide of Dr. Sanjabi said. "They just said hello."

In an interview published in London, Ayatollah Khomeini said that when the revolution succeeded, economic and social matters would be handled in line with Islamic principles.

The interview was published this month's issue of the London-based monthly Al Itissad Arabi.

He said Iran used to be self-sufficient in food but no longer imported it. "Therefore we will develop agriculture so that Iranian farmer can live an honourable life and return to his land to care for it," he said.

The Ayatollah added: "We will also work towards liberating mineral wealth within a proper framework based on human justice..."

In Geneva, the International



An adoring crowd lifts a solid towards the Ayatollah Khomeini Friday, as the religious leader appears on the balcony of his Tehran temporary headquarters. More than 100,000 greeted the Ayatollah on his second day in Iran after an exile of 15 years. (AP wirephoto)

Road Transport Union (IRU) announced today that Turkey has given permission for several European truck drivers stranded for weeks in Iran to return across the frontier.

About 1,000 European truck drivers—from Austria, Britain, Bulgaria, France, West Germany, Hungary and Switzerland—have been stuck at Bazargan in Iran since December because of a political strike by Iranian customs men.

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## Sadat: Sinai oil does not hinder ME peace treaty

CAIRO, Feb. 2 (R)—President Anwar Sadat said today that the Sinai oil is not a problem hindering a peace treaty with Israel, the official Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported.

"Israel has offered to pay the international prices for the Sinai oil and we have accepted," MENA quoted Mr. Sadat as saying.

The oil concerned is in the part of the Sinai Peninsula which Israel would hand back to Egypt under the proposed treaty.

Mr. Sadat said Egypt would wait to hear from President Carter on the next step for reviving the stalled peace talks.

Mr. Sadat, who was inspecting new houses under construction at his Nile Delta village of Mit Ahul Kom told reporters that President Carter is currently busy with Chinese Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping "but I hope to hear from him soon".

TEL AVIV, Feb. 2 (R)—Some 1,600 Palestinian commandos were arrested on occupied Arab land in 1978, 300 more than during the previous year, military sources said yesterday. The sources said about 10 per cent of commandos imprisoned in Israel returned to anti-Israel activities after their release. The Military Governor of the Occupied West Bank said that Palestinians in the territory he controls had adopted a more extreme line recently. "Soon after the Camp David agreements were signed there were several West Bank notables who came out in favour of self-rule to the area. But shortly afterwards, those moderate voices were silenced, sometimes under threat of murder by extremists," he said.

BONN, Feb. 2 (R)—West Germany and Saudi Arabia signed an agreement today protecting German investments in the Arab country. A statement by the Bonn Foreign Ministry said the agreement covered only private investment which was guaranteed by the West German government. The accord was signed by Economics Minister Count Otto Lambdordoff and the Saudi Finance and Economics Minister, Mohammed Ali Abd Khalil. In an accompanying exchange of letters, Saudi Arabia also pledged protection for investments in which the state-backed German Development Association has a share.

TEL AVIV, Feb. 2 (R)—The Israeli Army has named Maj-Gen. Yany Matz its next Military Coordinator of Activities in Occupied Arab Land, replacing Gen. Avraham Orly. Brigadier-Gen. Yehoshua Sagie will be appointed Chief of Military Intelligence, taking over from Maj-Gen. Shlomo Gazit. The new intelligence chief will be promoted to the rank of major general. The new appointments take effect today.

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## World News Roundup

Turkish editor's killing condemned

ISTANBUL, Feb. 2 (R)—The bullets which killed one of Turkey's foremost journalists were intended for Turkish democracy and constitutional order, Premier Bulent Ecevit said today as the nation reacted strongly to the latest political murder. Abdi Ipekci, Editor-in-Chief of the influential independent daily Milliyet, was shot in his car as he drove home from work yesterday. He died in hospital. Turkey's major newspapers appeared with all-black mastheads to mark his death, with leaders of all political parties issuing statements condemning the murder.

Britain ends tests on Asian women

LONDON, Feb. 2 (R)—Britain today ordered an end to virginity checks on Asian women coming here to be married. The Home Office admitted that an Indian woman had been medically tested at Heathrow Airport last week to see if she had ever borne a child. The tests are designed to help immigration officials check whether claims of intended marriage to British residents are genuine. The Home Office said the woman, aged 35, had been examined because an immigration officer suspected she might already have been married. It said the test showed she had never had a child.

Albanian 'King' ordered out of Spain

MADRID, Feb. 2 (R)—The self-proclaimed King of Albania has left Spain on the advice of authorities who threatened to confiscate an arsenal of weapons found in his Madrid residence, Spanish officials reported today. They said that 39-year-old King Leka the First, who has lived in Spain since 1962, flew to Gabon on Wednesday with his Australian-born wife and a group of bodyguards and aides. Leka, who is 2.06 metres (six feet nine inches) tall, proclaimed himself King when his father, King Zog, died in exile in 1961.

Hearst, husband-to-be to go into hiding

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 2 (R)—Newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst and the policeman she will marry, Bernard Shaw, holidayed at a secret resort today away from the crowds and celebrities she fears might try to harm her. The 24-year-old Miss Hearst was released from prison yesterday after serving 22 months of a seven-year sentence for bank robbery. She told reporters she probably would have to go into hiding. She received threats while in prison from people who were angered because she turned in court against members of the so-called Symbionese Liberation Army who kidnapped her five years ago.

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Telephone: 6171-2334, Tel. 1497 AIRTEL 10, Cable: JORTIMES, Amman, Jordan.

The Jordan Times is published daily except Mondays. Advertising and subscription rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising dept.

# Civil Defence Dept. operates fire brigade, provides emergency ambulance service

By Alan Martiny

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN—One characteristic of disasters is that they usually strike at the most unlikely time, when you least expect them. And they usually happen so quickly and forcefully that if one is not well prepared, lives and property are unnecessarily lost. So it is comforting to know that there are people around who are trained, equipped and prepared to help in such events.

Jordan groups its disaster relief into the Civil Defence Department, comprised of the fire brigade, civil defence, rescue and ambulance services. Regular civil defence units are spread throughout the country, ready to handle any kind of emergency at a moment's notice. The department has a unit in each subgovernorate responsible for the surrounding area.

"Our system is based on joint support," Col. Mohammad Khasawneh, Assistant Director General of the Civil Defence Department told the Jordan Times. "If a village needs help they can get it from another unit nearby or from Amman."

Salt, for example, can deal with normal emergency cases. But if something major happens which they are unable to handle they can get support from Jerash, Amman or Shunah. "One day we sent fire tenders to Aqaba from Amman, Madaba and Karak because a ship caught fire in the harbour," Col. Khasawneh said. "By this strategy we are able to handle every situation. And we thank God we have never failed."

So the department is usually able to handle most situations unaided. But for larger emergencies the department involves its volunteer forces. And in grave emergencies or situations requiring widespread relief it has contingency plans for training and mobilising the local population.

"We have a very good group of volunteers," he said. "They are completely volunteers too, receiving no pay. Some are doctors, teachers, engineers, students and workers." Two years ago when the cholera epidemic hit Jordan, most of the city cleaning was handled by the volunteers.

The voluntary sector is organized into 14 regions in Amman.



Fire fighters of the Civil Defence Department must be prepared to answer alerts from as far away as Aqaba.

Each region has a station with four groups: one for fire fighting, one for first aid, one for rescue and one for "civil guidance"—training and mobilising the civilian population.

"Daily we receive reports of incidents handled by our voluntary units," Mr. Khasawneh said. "When we need them they are on 24 hour notice and can be used anywhere in the country."

Some individuals in the voluntary units with specialised abilities have also made their talents available for public use. A couple of doctors have provided free clinics and some women have opened a school for illiterate women in their region.

In Amman the Civil Defence Department has four stations: headquarters, located opposite the General Intelligence Building, the municipal fire brigade in the downtown area, a unit in Sweileh for the western part of Amman and a unit at the airport for the eastern part of the city.

"We're not quite satisfied with this though," he said. "We're hoping to open more this year."

The department tries to get the most advanced equipment. It has modern fire tenders, snorkels, hydraulic ladders and other standard gear. "In three months we

are going to buy a 40 metre turntable ladder, with another two in about a year," which will be necessary as the height of Amman's buildings increases.

Asked if the new high-rise buildings such as the new 21-story Sheraton Hotel or the 19-story Commercial Complex planned for downtown, will complicate matters or surpass the department's fire fighting capabilities, he explained that before any building is constructed in Jordan the design must be presented to the department for examination.

"We advise the contractors on things to do in advance for safety and fire prevention. First of all," he said, "they have to have their own means of fire fighting: a water reservoir on top of the building and water points on each floor."

With public places the department studies the exit path which has to be designed for a specific number of people per minute. "We generally consider two and a half minutes the limit for evacuating all the people," he said. So on that basis the exit must be adequately designed. This is particularly directed at the cinemas and hotels.

Before construction of a building can begin, the owners must place a deposit in the bank equivalent to the cost of the safety features required by the department. "This way if the builder does not do what we ask we can take the money and do the things ourselves," he said.

Given all the safety measures and facilities provided for in the new wave of tall buildings, Col. Khasawneh feels the fire brigade will be able to manage.

One of Jordan's advantages over other parts of the world is that the building materials used here provide natural protection. "The fact that buildings here are made of stone helps us quite a bit," he said. "In the United States and Europe they build with combustible materials."

The department also has a Safety and Protection Branch which sets the standards for the sale and use of dangerous items, like LP gas cylinders, chemicals and poisons. "They must come to us for approval and we give them a list of specifications to fulfill."

Over the last five years inci-



One of Amman's fire tenders (left) with roving communications (right).

dent, the colonel explained.

"We have to be very careful because small things can easily lead to major disasters," he said.

One encouraging trend is that Jordanians are buying more safety equipment. In 1973, private citizens in the country spent JD 13,549 to buy 18,458 kilos of fire fighting agents. In 1977 this increased to JD 188,531 for 194,534 kilos. "This shows that people are becoming more safety conscious," he noted.

The use of the ambulance service, another one of the department's responsibilities, has also increased over the last four years by about 12 per cent annually.

The government is now planning to set up a special ambulance service, utilizing the new microwave emergency telephone system along the highways. By pressing a button on the phone or talking to the operator, a signal indicating the location of the accident would be relayed to the emergency ambulance.

"In my experience, civil defence is never enough," Col. Khasawneh said. "When a major disaster comes you need many organizations, people and materials."

One of the biggest problems, he said, is that few countries can afford to maintain a large civil defence organization. No country, not even the richest, can afford such a big effort. The manpower and material costs would be too high, the colonel added.

Worldwide emphasis was placed on civil defence following World War II as a result of the development of devastating weapons such as nuclear arms and fast aircraft. Suddenly, involved in the population in war, civil defence was organized as a means of protecting civilians from the effects of war but expanded to include protection from all forms of disaster.

As major disasters are beyond the ability of one nation to handle, a cooperative system under United Nations auspices was created called the International Civil Defence Organization (ICDO). The ICDO, in Geneva, enlists most nations as members.

Jordan joined the organization at the beginning of last year, Khasawneh said. "We are the organization's eighth member in Tunisia and quite helpful. Now we can have the cooperation of nations in cases of emergency."

Over the last few years, Jordan has been quite lucky in that only a few major disasters have occurred in the area. There have been only a few localised troubles, such as floods which destroyed two-thirds of Ma'an years ago. The last major earthquake was in the late 1940s.

Nevertheless, it is wise to be prepared and to remember the saying: "The best preparation for disaster is to be prepared for it."

## Wrong Church, wrong pew

WHEN SENATOR Frank Church acceded recently to the chairmanship of the important U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, it was a clear setback for Arab interests in Washington. A long-time captive of Zionist influence on Congress, and an ambitious Democratic Party presidential aspirant, Senator Church suddenly found himself occupying a useful new platform from which to expound his distorted view of American Middle East policy.

Now, in a speech to a Jewish audience in Florida, Mr. Church has outdone himself with a stinging attack on Saudi Arabia, calling that country a "detriment to peace" and warning the Saudis that their "special relationship" with the United States "cannot be a one-way street."

The timing of the speech is nothing if not curious, coming just as the Saudis themselves are re-assessing their relationship with the United States in the light of what they see as the growing unacceptability of America as an ally, as an economic partner, and as a guarantor against sudden changes in the strategic balance in the Gulf. If the Saudis are wavering, Mr. Church seems determined to give them the push.

The Saudi rulers might agree with Senator Church that their relationship with the U.S. cannot be a "one-way street"; from their point of view, indeed, it is perhaps time to reverse direction from this cul-de-sac.

Financially, the Saudis have kept a substantial proportion of their oil surpluses in dollars, and have stoutly defended and helped to prop up that currency, when all about them had long since lost faith in American fiscal policy. Because of the dollar's loss of value since 1973, they have watched their oil earnings decline alarmingly in value; where they could have prevailed on their OPEC partners to raise crude oil prices to compensate for these losses, they have instead engineered moderate price rises which have not kept pace with inflation.

As an added vote of confidence in the American system, they have spent billions on importing U.S. technology (often when the comparable European or Japanese technology was not only cheaper but more suitable), and have invested millions more in U.S. industry and real estate (for which they have been branded as greedy interlopers trying to "buy up America"). In recent weeks, they have reluctantly increased their oil production to make up for the reduced flow of oil to America from Iran. And, of course, they continue to wait patiently for the U.S. to adopt a sensible energy policy, while pressing ahead themselves with pioneering research into solar energy.

Politically, for wanting to share responsibility with the U.S. in defending the oilfields of the Gulf and the Arabian peninsula against subversion, they have seen their offer to buy advanced American jet fighters subjected to insulting scrutiny by an ill-informed Congress and a Zionist-influenced press and public ("only 15 minutes supersonic flying time from Tabuk to Tel Aviv"). And recently they have watched with alarm as the U.S. has waffled and wavered in Iran, only to be told now by Senator Church that a similar fate might be in store for Saudi Arabia.

We shall save for another day any comment on Mr. Church's insistence that Saudi Arabia is hindering the Camp David peace process. We don't expect he knows much about Jerusalem, or what's happening on the West Bank, or about the extent to which Egypt's day-to-day survival (and, incidentally, that of many other countries, particularly in Africa) depends on Saudi generosity. Such information is probably not contained in the B'nai B'rith information kit from which he derives the inspiration for his public speeches.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I Friday stresses the importance of Prime Minister Mudar Badran's meeting with officials and heads of municipal councils of the Zarqa District on Thursday. The visit, it says, reflects the government's readiness to always suggest and find out solutions for all problems facing the people of the country through an imaginative comprehension of these problems and scientific study for their solution.

Al Ra'i notes that the human influx to Jordan caused by Zionist aggression during the wars of 1948 and 1967 has doubled responsibilities of the government to provide adequate public services for this unnatural population growth which repeated itself twice in less than 30 years.

Despite Jordan's limited natural resources, measures taken by the government were able to "absorb" a large number of problems and provide the best possible services in the fields of education, health, road building and other public utilities, the newspaper says.

AL DUSTOUR says the tumultuous welcome accorded to Ayatollah Khomeini's return to Tehran on Thursday is almost unprecedented in the annals of history. It may be compared with the return of Napoleon from his exile in Elba Island or the return of Julius Caesar from his victorious conquests.

In the case of Muslims reflecting on their past heroic deeds, Khomeini's comeback may be similar in intent and content to the Prophet Mohammad's conquest of Mecca after so many years of exile in the Medina or the conquest of Jerusalem by Saladin after many decades of the Crusaders' domination.

The big world powers which now stand bewildered at the present monumental revolutionary phenomenon in Iran, must take into account that Islam is a living, dynamic and growing force that must be recognised as such and dealt with from the position of respect and understanding.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

Painting Exhibit

The British Council presents an exhibition of watercolours and oil paintings by Clara Metzbagopian. Open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and during regular hours in the afternoon.

French Film

The French Cultural Centre presents a film by Robert Bresson entitled "Au hazard Balhazard", at 7:30 p.m. French version with Arabic subtitles.

Book Exhibit

An exhibition of British medical journals is on display in the Reading Room of the British Council library. Open during regular library hours.

Art Exhibit

An exhibition of paintings and drawings by Ann Wiegand is on display at the American Centre. Open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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# Damas-Scene

Compiled for the Jordan Times by Pat McDonnell

## EXHIBITS

**SATURDAY, Feb. 3:** An exhibit of black and white photos depicting the life and works of composer Maurice Ravel goes on view at the French Cultural Centre.

**SATURDAY, Feb. 3:** Oil paintings by Suwayda artist Ziad Daioul will be featured in a one-man show at Al Sha'b Gallery through Feb. 10. Hours: 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.; 4:30 - 8 p.m.

**SUNDAY, Feb. 5:** A photo exhibit depicting Soviet Georgia goes on view for one week at the Soviet Cultural Centre.

## CONCERTS

**SATURDAY, Feb. 3:** "Ars Antiqua de Paris" will be featured at 8:30 p.m. at Al Kabbani Theatre.

**SATURDAY, Feb. 3:** Hansa Al-Wadi, a student at the Moscow Conservatory of Music, will perform compositions of Mozart, Beethoven, and Chopin on the piano at 8:30 p.m. at Al Hamra Theatre.

**THURSDAY, Feb. 8:** Russian pianist Natalia Riasanova will perform at 8 p.m. at the Music Salon of the Soviet Cultural Centre. The programme includes: Beethoven's Sonata 31, n. 3; Chopin's "Nocturne", opus 15, n. 2; "Etude", opus 25, n. 12; Ballade, n. 2; and "Prelude" opus 34, n. 1.

**FRIDAY, Feb. 9:** "Albanian Culture in Kosovo (Yugoslavia)" will be the topic of Prof. Abdulatif Amaout at 6 p.m. at the Arab Cultural Centre (in Arabic).

**WEDNESDAY, Feb. 7:** "Football, Queen of Sports" will be the topic of a discussion with players from the German Democratic Republic Army Sports Team at 6 p.m. at the German Democratic Republic Cultural Centre (in German and Arabic).

**THURSDAY, Feb. 8:** "Thomas Hardy: the Poetry of Remembrance" is the title of a talk to be delivered by Dr. Suleiman, a professor of English at the British Cultural Centre.

## VIDEO-TAPED PROGRAMMES

**WEDNESDAY, Feb. 7:** "Arsene Lupin: L'homme au chapeau noir" will be presented at 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

**FRIDAY, Feb. 9:** "Claude Bolling / Jazz" is scheduled for 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

## ENTERTAINMENT

Norwegian songstress Billie Wells is appearing nightly at the rooftop supper club of the Meridian Hotel through Feb. 11. Her repertoire includes a number of songs in Norwegian, Swedish, and English. Her performance is a must-see for all music lovers.



Norwegian songstress Billie Wells is appearing nightly in the rooftop supper club of the Meridian Hotel. Her repertoire is chiefly pop songs sung in a number of languages.

## THEATRE

**SUNDAY, Feb. 4:** The National Theatre of Syria will open a three-week run of Mamduh Adwan's adaptation of "Man of La Mancha" starring Zinat Koutsia as Don Quixote. Mahmoud Hadour is director of the production presented nightly except Fridays at 8:30 p.m. at Al Hamra Theatre. Others in the cast are Abdulatif Fahmy, Farah Dipsey, Fida Samour, Addelsalam Altab and Salyum Haddad (in Arabic).

**THURSDAY, Feb. 8, and FRIDAY, Feb. 9:** The Damascus Theatre Group will stage "Hassan" by James Elroy Flecker at 8 p.m. both nights at Damascus Community School. Bob Straker-Cook is director.

## FILMS

**SATURDAY, Feb. 3, and MONDAY, Feb. 5:** "Amore" directed by Henry Chapier starring Sonia Petrova, Daniel Quenaut and Julian Negulesco, will be shown at 6:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (in French, Arabic sub-titles).

**SUNDAY, Feb. 4:** "Men Without Beards" is the title of a film to be shown at 6:30 p.m. at the German Democratic Republic Cultural Centre (in German, Arabic sub-titles).

**MONDAY, Feb. 5:** "Citadel on Wheels" will be shown at 6 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian, Arabic sub-titles).

**THURSDAY, Feb. 8:** "Les Etoiles de Midi" directed by Marcel Jeacas starring Lionel Terray and Roger Blin, will be shown at 6:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (in French, Arabic sub-titles).

**FRIDAY, Feb. 9:** "The Valley" Part II will be shown at 6 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian, Arabic sub-titles).

## Jordanian-Dutch archaeological digs to begin in Jordan Valley

AMMAN, Feb. 2 (JNA)—The Department of Antiquities in cooperation with the Palestine archaeological institute at Leyden University in Holland will start archaeological digs near Deir Alla in the Jordan Valley on Saturday. The aim of the new excavations, expected to last two months, is to unearth further layers of living quarters that date back to a period between the seventh and fifth centuries B.C. which is known as the late iron age. Director of the Department of Antiquities Adnan Al Hadidi said yesterday "The excavators hope to get more information about an ancient wall on which Aramaic writings had been found and also to unearth the earliest antiquities lying in the area. Dr. Al Hadidi said. He added that Aramaic writings found at the site are now on display at the Jordanian Archaeological Museum in Amman. University students of archaeology from Jordan and Holland are taking part in the excavations.

## TODAY'S WEATHER

The weather will be partly cloudy with a slight chance of scattered rain. Winds will be southwesterly moderate. In Aqaba Gulf there will be dusty conditions, northerly moderate winds and calm seas.

Temperatures	Overnight minimum	Daytime maximum
Amman	5	14
Aqaba	10	20
Jordan Valley	11	21
Deserts	4	15

## Coming & Going

### U. of J. delegation to attend Arab language meeting

AMMAN, Feb. 2 (JNA)—The University of Jordan will take part in an Arab experts meeting which is to be held in Damascus Saturday to debate and approve the plan for a unified Arab dictionary for administrative idioms. The two-week meeting, sponsored by the Arab organization for administrative science will be attended by Arab administrative experts and representatives from the Arabic language academies in Amman, Damascus, Cairo and Baghdad. The university will be represented by Assistant Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Commerce Faculty Dr. Na'im Dahmash.

### Saudi communications official ends visit to Jordan

AMMAN, Feb. 2 (JNA)—Under-secretary of the Saudi Ministry of Communications Dr. Nasser Al Saloum left Amman yesterday at the end of his three-day visit to Jordan. He held talks with the Minister of Transport Ali Suheimat and Minister of Public Works Sa'id Bino on cooperation between Jordan and Saudi Arabia in the field of communication and transport.

### Health Ministry official off to the U.S.

AMMAN, Feb. 2 (JNA)—Head of the mother and child section at the Ministry of Health Dr. Mohammad Ali Al Halabi left here today for the United States to attend an advanced course on family health and safe child birth. The course to be held at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore aims at developing maternity and baby care through exchange of data and expertise among specialists throughout the world. The four-week course will be attended by representatives from more than 40 countries.

### Tourism director to leave for meeting in Madrid

AMMAN, Feb. 2 (JNA)—Director General of Tourism Michael Hamarneh will leave for Madrid today.

## Clubs, Societies, Sports Groups—let us know what you are doing

Our "What's going on" section needs YOUR help if it is to be a success. It's the news of your clubs, your societies, your meetings and outings that are open to the public which appear in "What's going on." Help us to help you by publishing your public events. Charity bazaars, school open days, concerts, commercial exhibitions... our readers are interested in your events. Please write us at P.O. Box 6710, telephone 67171 or even call in at our offices on the Amman-Jordan road between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. and tell us what's going on. The Jordan Times will publish the findings on the day of the event.

If you have items for the Damas-Scene column, please send them 10 days in advance to Pat McDonnell, P.O.B. 5601, Damascus, Syria.

## Royal decree approves price fixing of car spare parts

AMMAN, Feb. 2 (JNA)—A royal decree was issued yesterday approving the pension fund and social security regulation for veterinary doctors. The fund is aimed at paying pension salaries to doctors or their families and providing social security for doctors or their families in cases of invalidism or death. Another royal decree was issued endorsing the Fixing of prices of car spare parts and other equipment which was approved by the Cabinet on Jan. 7. The regulation puts a maximum rate of aggregate profit for all middlemen up to the consumer, on all spare parts and accessories sold, at 30 per cent of the import cost. This cost includes the commodity price together with customs duties and any other fees, transport costs, wages, insurance, bank expenses, service charges at the clearing centre and other administrative expenses.

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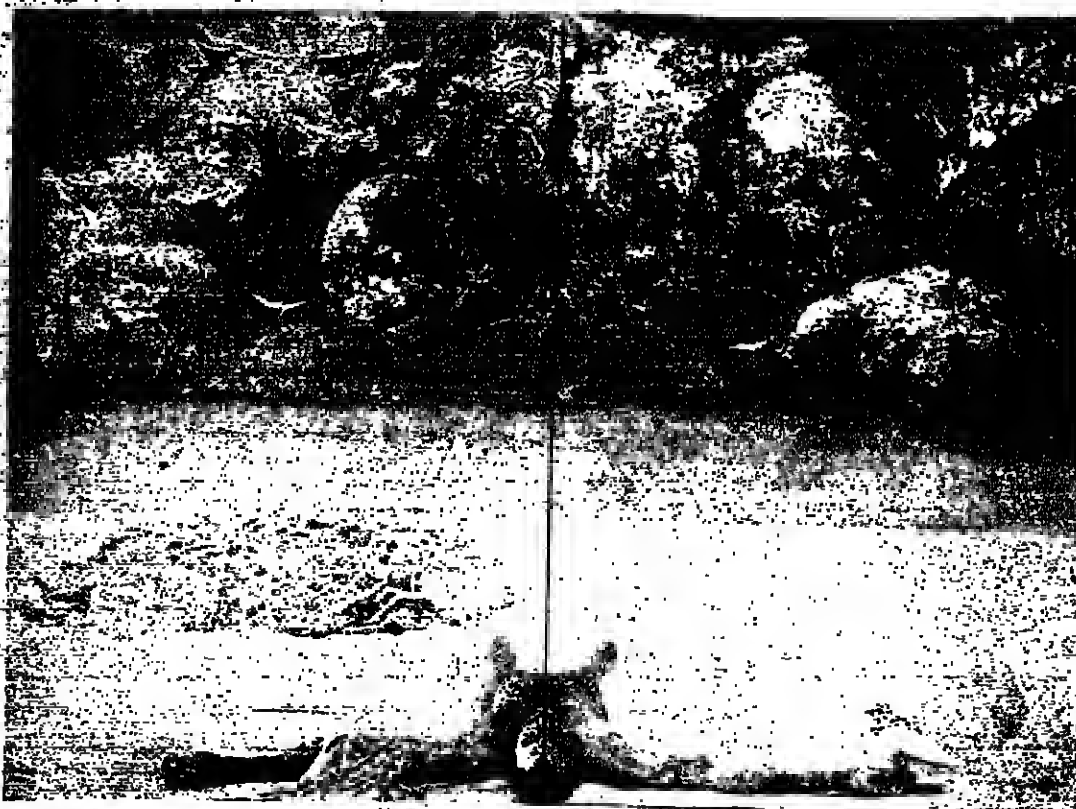
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The favorite of crowds attending the Iraqi art exhibition in the Damascus National Museum was this monumental four-part painting by Kadem depicting a threatening dragon (Israel ?) looming over a mound of human corpses; in the foreground is a dead Arab with a kafieh-wearing dove perched on his outstretched fingers (photo by Haytham Kawakibi).

zip-Vietnamese --born Le-thu Puritoy exudes. The diminutive dynamo produced more than 20 oriental courses--topped by a roast sucking pig (purchased in Lebanon). The Puritoy apartment was decorated with strings of coloured lights, tinsel and traditional Vietnamese New Year decorations.

The host is in Damascus with U.S.A.I.D. and so it was no surprise to see numerous A.I.D. representatives including Don and Helen Yeman and Ann and Dr. Nassib Hemaidan chatting with William C. LaBaugh, vice president of Daniel Mann, Johnson and Mendenhall of New York City. Mr. LaBaugh recently arrived in Syria as a consultant for the proposed Damascus-Dera' Highway.

It was indeed one of the most spectacular fashion extravaganzas ever staged in Damascus when the Iraqis presented a parade of oriental

attire spanning 5,000 years at the Meridian Hotel Tuesday evening.

The seven models were startlingly beautiful--and readily identifiable--the staging, fashions, fabrics, music and backdrops truly made it a thousand and one nights as the mannequins glided across the runway to the rhythms of throbbing bedouin drums.

Costumes copied after artifactual remains from Sumer of 3500 B.C. opened the show; these were followed by a designer's version of Akkadian costumes, then by a sequence dedicated to the Babylonian kingdom of 1750 B.C. in which models appeared in tiered sequined gowns and cobra turbans. The Assyrian period was represented by models carrying flaming torches, two of them wore feathered wings noted in Assyrian friezes.

Backdrops depicting the Sumerian and Assyrian periods were removed to reveal 16 shimmering Arab tents as the

Islamic period was introduced by models wearing embroidered gowns that accurately depicted scenes from the miniatures of Al Wasiti. Modern evening attire illustrating the textile weaving genius of Iraq rounded out the spectacular.

The Iraqi costume show is next slated for European capitals. There's no doubt about it, spectators will be wowed--it is better than many Parisian fashion previews, but, of course, the presentation has an unbeatable theme--5,000 years of Iraqi history. The show was so popular with the standing-room-only audience of more than 700 persons that it was repeated Friday night. There's a chance it will be repeated this week, please call the Meridian Hotel for confirmation.

If you have items for the Damas-Scene column, please send them 10 days in advance to Pat McDonnell, P.O.B. 5601, Damascus, Syria.











# Despite attacks by Deng U.S.-Soviet summit reportedly still on

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2 (R)—A U.S.-Soviet summit between Presidents Carter and Leonid Brezhnev is certain, despite anti-Soviet attacks by Chinese Premier Deng Xiaoping during his talks here, a Soviet diplomatic source said.

"There will be a summit," the sources said last night, but the time and place had not yet been worked out. These would probably depend on progress in solving the few remaining issues blocking a new Strategic Arms Limitation (SALT) treaty.

The initial Soviet assessment was that, generally speaking, President Carter handled the Deng visit "prudently," although the Russians were critical of the timing of the visit just one month after the opening of U.S.-Chinese diplomatic relations.

The Soviet news agency Tass yesterday criticised speeches made by Mr. Deng attacking the Soviet Union, and the sources said criticism also could be expected of the final communiqué on the talks.

The communiqué's use of the word "hegemony," a Chinese code-word for what Peking calls Soviet aggressive intentions, would provoke objections, the source said. This was despite the White House explanation that the term had been used twice before in Sino-American documents and a subsequent slight softening of the relevant paragraph.

In referring to Mr. Deng's speeches criticising the Soviet Union, the sources said: "The sight of Deng attacking the Soviet Union in the National Gallery of Art is not going to help U.S.-Soviet relations."

"It also makes it more difficult for the United States to conduct its foreign policy."

The Chinese leader accused the Soviet Union of seeking global domination and said Moscow was backing Vietnam's "massive armed aggression" against Kampuchea (Cambodia).

The source said the Soviet Union felt that China gained far more than the United States from Mr. Deng's visit.

"The Chinese have managed to

dictate the pace of relations with the United States," he said. "They got more out of this visit than you (the United States) asked for."

Tass said the United States should clarify its attitude following Mr. Deng's "incendiary statements."

But a senior U.S. official said the clarification had been given this week when President Carter made clear the United States did not share China's view of its communist rival.

The president said at a White House signing ceremony on Wednesday for four U.S.-Chinese cooperation accords that on broad, global problems the United States and China did not always concur.

The word "global" has become diplomatic shorthand for relations with the Soviet Union.

In addition, the joint communiqué issued here said the two sides discussed "those areas in which they have differing perspectives."

Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin was briefed yesterday by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance on the Carter-Deng talks, the State Department said.

Reliable sources said SALT was also discussed and added: "Things are moving along SALT both here and in Geneva (where the permanent SALT delegations are meeting)."

## China satisfied

China yesterday expressed satisfaction with the results of Vice-Premier Deng's visit to the United States.

"With unity, the United States, Europe, Japan, China and other countries of the Third World can deal with Soviet hegemonism and only then can there be a more peaceful, more secure and more

stable world," the official New China News Agency (NCNA) said in a report from Washington.

When Mr. Deng shook hands with President Carter, "it was a moment that marked a significant change in the world."

The agency said that the first meeting of the two men was quickly crowned with remarkable results satisfactory to both sides, and they found that they shared identical views on many issues.

"The subject of their discussions—the present world situation—is far from tranquil and is in fact getting more and more turbulent. So it is not surprising that they devoted most of the time to an appraisal of that situation."

The agency said the military growth of the Soviet Union could not be overlooked. "No part of the world is free from menace, the menace from the north," it said.

"The polar bear (Moscow) wants to enfold the whole globe," the agency said. "It has reached the seas from the Indian Ocean to Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay, Kampuchea has fallen victim to outright armed aggression and the Malacca Strait (between Indonesia and Malaysia) becomes the convergent point of the pincers of the Soviet navy. The factor making for war is growing visibly."

The agency said that it was against this background that Mr. Deng had pointed out during his Washington visit that both China and the United States approached the development of their relations from a long-range strategic point of view and that the two countries should have a greater sense of responsibility for the maintenance of world peace and stability.

The Chinese agency said that differences in their social systems did not prevent the two countries from arriving at a general agreement.

# Saudi Arabia is 'detriment to peace,' claims U.S. senator

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2 (R)—The chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday urged a fundamental review of U.S. policy towards Saudi Arabia, saying the Saudis were a detriment to peace.

In a critical assessment of U.S. Middle East policy since last September's Camp David accords, Senator Frank Church (democrat, Idaho) said that Saudi Arabia was "far more a detriment to peace than we (the United States) are willing to admit."

He said the administration should examine the advisability of going ahead with the sale of 60 advanced F-15 fighter aircraft to Saudi Arabia.

"It is time for plain speaking with the government of Saudi Arabia," Senator Church said in a speech prepared for delivery to the anti-defamation league of B'nai B'rith, a major U.S. Jewish organisation, at Palm Beach, Florida. "I suggest that now is precisely the time to inform the Saudis that a 'special relationship' cannot be a one-way street."

See editorial, page 2

Senator Church noted that following the col-

lapse of the Shah of Iran, the United States had agreed to fly F-15 fighters into Saudi Arabia as a show of support and said it was taken as a sign that the administration intended to go through with the \$2.5 billion sale of F-15 and F-5E aircraft.

Despite these overtures, he said, Saudi Arabia had joined the "pan Arab chorus" in politically isolating Egypt, had threatened to invoke sanctions against Egypt and had "agreed to participate in the payment of billions of dollars to Syria and Jordan to stay out of the Camp David peace process."

Senator Church said the Saudis could not count on unequivocal U.S. support without demonstrating they were responsive to the fundamental U.S. concern over the conclusion of an Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty.

Senator Church said the United States had misjudged the situation in Iran and said he feared it was "equally out of touch with the realities in Saudi Arabia."

He also said the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty should be signed in its present form and the United States should abandon efforts to "appease" Arab parties opposed to the Camp David approach by putting pressure on Israel.

## Former Ethiopia official dies in jail

NEW YORK, Feb. 2 (R)—Yilma Deressa, once a mainstay of former Emperor Haile Selassie's Ethiopian ruler, has died of cancer in an Addis Ababa jail.

His son, Benyam Yilma Deressa, said the family recently learned that their father died on Jan. 20. He said his father, who was imprisoned five years ago with members of Emperor Haile Selassie's family and several other ministers, had been found innocent of any crime against the state by an enquiry commission established by the military government that overthrew the emperor in September 1974. Despite his exoneration, his wife was barred from visiting him and he died in jail.

During the Italian occupation of the country, Mr. Yilma, then a nationalist combatant, was jailed from 1937 to 1939 and put under house arrest from 1940 to 1941.

After the Italian occupation forces left, he organised the country's first Ministry of Finance and became its chief executive. He had been educated at the London School of Economics.

From 1951 to 1956 he was Ethiopia's ambassador to the United Nations and negotiated

the federation between Eritrea and Ethiopia, which later led to the continuing secessionist Eritrean war. During this period, he also became ambassador to the United States, leaving his post in 1957.

As minister of foreign affairs from 1957 to 1959, he laid the groundwork for the formation in

1962 of the Organisation of African Unity, which has its seat in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa.

He held a number of cabinet positions before becoming a member of the Crown Council in 1970. The council advised the emperor on constitutional matters, including succession to the throne.

## Philippines blocks harbour against more Viet refugees

MANILA, Feb. 2 (R)—The Philippines, faced with the possible arrival of several thousand more unwanted Vietnamese refugees, today threw a naval blockade across Manila Bay to stop them from entering the harbour. A coast guard spokesman said the 30-kilometre wide blockade by coast guard cutters would remain as long as required.

At the same time a coast guard ship was sent to the southwestern island of Bacayan where one of two refugee ships, believed to be carrying 1,000 refugees each, damped at least 600 people yesterday.

Foreign Office officials said many of the refugees were women and children. They said they feared that syndicates trafficking in refugees were adopting new tactics and unloading them wherever they could do so undetected.

Officials said the vessel Ly Lu had slipped past navy ships to reach the island, then headed out to sea with at least one other refugee-packed boat. There were unconfirmed reports of a third vessel in the area. The navy has been ordered to find them, ensure they have adequate supplies and warn them not to try to re-enter Philippines waters.

The Philippines is trying to get rid of more than 2,000 refugees who have been aboard the Hong Kong-owned freighter Tung An in Manila Bay for five weeks, as well as more than 1,600 in a Manila refugee centre who arrived last year.

A further 31 sneaked into Manila in a fishing boat yesterday. They are tied alongside the Tung An awaiting a presidential decision on whether they will be permitted to stay despite a general order against allowing any more refugees to land. The Philippines has said it may have to send the Tung An to Hong Kong next week unless more Western countries agree to accept refugees from the ship.

## Soviet tests with long range missiles could block SALT progress, says U.S.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2 (R)—The Soviet Union has test-fired long-range Cruise missiles from its Backfire bomber, U.S. Government sources said yesterday.

The Backfire—NATO code name for the Tupolev TU-26 twin-jet swing-wing bomber—has been a cause of argument in U.S.-Soviet negotiations for a second SALT (Strategic Arms Limitation) agreement.

The Russians refuse to have the Backfire considered a strategic weapon for SALT purposes, arguing that it is designed mainly for use in Europe.

Under the proposed treaty, however, the U.S. would count it against the weapons ceiling set for Moscow if it carried Cruise mis-

siles with a range of more than 600 kilometres.

The U.S. sources said several recent test-firings sent motor driven Cruise missiles, launched by Backfire, over an average of 1,200 kilometres.

Yesterday, U.S. Government sources confirmed a report in the Baltimore Sun newspaper that new intelligence reports said eight Soviet tests—one as recently as two weeks ago—concerned long-range Cruise missiles launched from the Backfire.

Defence Department officials acknowledged that the development would mean an additional burden on administration officials who must defend a SALT treaty against critics in the Senate. Enough Senators have ques-

## Thieves attack Austrian foreign minister

STRASBOURG, France, Feb. 2 (R)—Austrian Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr was attacked and left unconscious on the streets of Strasbourg early today by two thieves who stole his wallet, police said. Dr. Pahr, who suffered head injuries, was hospitalized by passers-by. No arrests were made. The minister for a Council of Europe meeting, at which he spoke, was allowed to leave hospital after treatment. He was in the mugging, police said. The attackers got a considerable sum of money and the foreign minister's valuables. Dr. Pahr was attacked only a few hundred metres from his hotel when he went out for a stroll.

## Smokers more likely to die of heart

BOSTON, Feb. 2 (R)—Cigarette smokers face five times the risk of dying from heart disease compared with non-smokers, a study involving 4,004 middle-aged subjects. Reports in the English Journal of Medicine, doctors said the study provided important evidence about the dangers of smoking. It wrote that it had long been suggested by some that personality traits, occupational hazards and other factors many smokers might have more to do with causing heart smoking itself. They said the study contained nothing to suggest, but instead pointed strongly to smoking as a cause of increased deaths.

## Ugandan official says no wrestling for

TOKYO, Feb. 2 (R)—Reports that Ugandan President Idi Amin was planning to fight a leading Japanese wrestler are completely groundless, an Ambassador Samsoni Bigombe said yesterday. He said President Idi Amin of Uganda was engaged in a complete fabrication and tends to demean the highest president of a friendly state. He said in a statement for the Japanese media that President Amin was planning to fight Mr. Inoki in a martial arts bout in Kampala on World Boxing Association heavyweight champion Masahiro as referee.

## U.N. report says Icelanders live long

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 2 (R)—Life expectancy is highest in the world, according to the latest issue of Nations demographic yearbook published yesterday. It can expect to live 79 years, while men can look forward to 77 years. In contrast, most Africans average less than 50 years, and countries life expectancy is less than 20 years. In Europe, Japanese and North American women live 75 years, and men about 70.

## FBI arrests alleged uranium extortion

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2 (R)—FBI agents arrested a worker at a North Carolina uranium plant today and recovered about 68 kilograms of uranium he was alleged to have stolen as part of an extortion plot.

The FBI said the worker, a 35-year-old man, was arrested after a search by agents believed all of the uranium had been stolen from the plant.

Today was to be the last day of the plant's operation before it was to be closed down.

The arrested man, David Dale, was a worker at the plant. The first incident came when a man, a brownish powder, was found in the plant on Monday.

A spokesman for the Regulatory Commission said: "You can't trust unless you have plant—something complex, man-made."

An inventory of the plant was being conducted by the FBI. The substance was a security matter, he said, but the normal process of the plant was being followed.

## Non-whites suffer as result of S. Africa's segregated housing

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 2 (R)—A cluster of tents and tarpaulin-covered furniture on a pavement in the dilapidated Johannesburg suburb of Fordsburg has spotlighted South Africa's policy of segregated housing.

The camp shelters an Indian family of eight evicted from their house on Monday by the government's Department of Community Development, and the Rev. Rob Robertson, a Presbyterian minister campaigning for more and better houses for the country's non-whites, who is giving the family moral support.

Salesman Raghubathi Naidu, his wife, three daughters and three married relatives lost their house for contravening the Group Areas Act which enforces strictly segregated living areas for each of the country's four racial groupings—whites, blacks, Asians and coloureds (mixed-race).

Mr. Naidu said that after being told in 1977 to move out of Fordsburg, he applied for rehousing in Lenasia, the city's only Indian township, but as the waiting list was so long he would not qualify for at least another three years. He said his family would stay in the street until they were rehoused by the government as they had nowhere else to go.

A spokesman for the Department of Community Development would not comment on the eviction. But he said there were 3,416 Indian families waiting for houses in Lenasia. The department hoped to complete 264 new houses this year and there were plans for more than 3,000 dwellings in 1980.

But Mr. Robertson said figures released by the city council last year showed at least 5,000 new homes were needed to decently house all the city's Indians.

Mr. Robertson, who has erected a tent and joined the Naidu family on the pavement "to give support and to help guard the furniture," said the department's eviction policy was simply adding to the housing shortage.

"Mr. Naidu is the first Indian to my knowledge who has not meekly accepted eviction and simply crowded in with relatives so worsening the housing situation," Mr. Robertson said.

Fordsburg and the neighbouring suburb of Mayfair attract increasing numbers of homeless Indians and coloured people despite the Group Areas Act. And some landlords in the crumbling working-class areas who have difficulty renting their houses to whites are keen to ignore the act.

The city's Indian community is also coming under fire in the whites-only apartment area of Hillbrow, where many more are living illegally.

Landlords in central Johannesburg are the target of a campaign by an ultra-right wing pressure group, the National Front, to clear the area of non-whites.

And non-white tenants of four years who said they moved to Hillbrow in desperation are being evicted. One landlord said he feared prosecution "now that the National Front are helping the government to throw out these unfortunate people."

In Fordsburg, Mr. Robertson, who said he had been trying to persuade the government and the council to do something about the housing shortage for more than a year, said he would continue his pavement vigil. "I would like Mr. Naidu to know there are some whites who feel ashamed of what has been done in their name," he said.

## Europe's market in share options

By Terry Byland

LONDON: The U.S. businessman has always seen himself as the true pioneer of capitalism, committed to the pursuit of free enterprise to a degree never equaled by his European counterparts, and he is often quite correct.

American business enthrones competition and rejects the suggestion that any business sector, be it banking, medicine, or pension insurance, can regard itself as above the fray.

But American capitalism has not always travelled well when exported to Europe, where stock exchanges, to name but one example, have proved unwilling to accept the full implications of naked competition.

It is beginning to look as though the market in traded share options—Chicago's latest contribution to the world of business—has suffered a severe bout of sea sickness during the transatlantic voyage.

For there is now a marked divergence of experience between the U.S. markets in share options, which go from strength to

strength, and those in Europe, which look more and more like weak sisters at the end of the first year of trading approaches.

The concept of trading in options on shares, as distinct from simply taking an option and then waiting for the due time before deciding what to do with it, was born in Chicago in April 1973. Share options now attract investors by the millions in the U.S. and are traded on every major American exchange, except for the New York Stock Exchange.

It is not too much to say that the progress of share option trading in the U.S. has astounded even the most hardened market men. Turnover in share options has risen from zero in 1973 to an estimated ten billion contracts in 1978.

Option trading played a significant role in the rapid rise in U.S. equity markets early in 1978; it has since survived a freeze on new listing imposed by the Securities and Exchange Commission, which is even now endeavouring to complete a study of a market which, it is generally agreed, is still somewhere beyond human ken.

When Europe, after much encouragement from across the Atlantic, decided to try out an options market of its own, it was Amsterdam and London which vied for the honour of opening the show in April 1978.

But the attractions now seem to be fading fast. Turnover on the Amsterdam options exchange (the European Options Exchange) broke through to above 10,000 contracts per week just before Christmas. This was heartening, but a far cry from the target of 7,000 contracts a day which the exchange originally hoped to achieve within the first year of trading. In fact this target has now been abandoned and the exchange would be more than happy with a total of 2,000 contracts a day—a figure requiring a substantial further improvement on performance to date.

London chose last April to open a subdued and relatively expensive system of options trading and, within its somewhat limited target range, made a fair start.

The market was then aiming at a break-even point of about 800 contracts per day.

## Share options trading is booming on almost every American stock exchange, but the introduction of the idea on the other side of the Atlantic has had mixed results.

But before the end of the year, the London Stock Exchange disclosed that option turnover was reaching record totals of 1,200 contracts a day, and that the exchange was making a profit on traded option business.

The exchange commented that "investors of nearly all types" had moved into options, taking over the running of the market from the professional. This calmed a fear that the private investor—who is becoming an increasingly rare bird in the U.K.—would not take the lead from his U.S. counterpart who has jumped into the option market.

But London may have been clapping itself on the back too soon. For the U.K. Inland Revenue delivered a shock to the option market with a ruling on capital gains tax.

The ruling, which said that investing institutions normally exempt from capital gains tax are not so exempt when dealing in options, was not wholly unexpected. The attitude of the U.K.

authorities towards taxation of option profits has always been a major uncertainty for the market. But the ruling against the institutions certainly dealt a blow to the option market.

Turnover fell from an average 768 contracts a day to only 559 in the days following the Inland Revenue statement. It can be said that many of the market professionals still believe that London will follow the Dutch lead in releasing from taxation profits made by offering stock for option contracts—or "writing" as it is known. However, only the future can tell. Perhaps more disconcerting has been the almost complete collapse of hope that Europe would, in the case of traded options, manage to present a united front to match the power of the U.S. markets and investors.

The rivalry between Amsterdam and London to be the first to open a market now regarded as no more than a piece of rather childish history. But the lack of co-operation has

run rather deep. Mr. van der Stoep, general director of Options Exchange, commented that "the Dutch have been successful because of opposition from the jobbers in the market."

Amsterdam's trading in options is still in its infancy, and the market is still in the process of being built up.

All this is a far cry from the situation in the U.S., where the market is now a well-established and thriving one.

Option trading has been the way in which the market has been built up, and it is now a well-established and thriving one.

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